

Fruits Basket

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in America!



11

Natsuki Takaya

Fruits Basket

Volume 11



Natsuki Takaya

Fruits Basket™

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STORY SO FAR...

Hello, I'm Tohru Honda and I have come to know a terrible secret. After the death of my mother, I was living by myself in a tent, when the Sohma family took me in. I soon learned that the Sohma family lives with a curse! Each family member is possessed by the vengeful spirit of an animal from the Chinese Zodiac. Whenever one of them becomes weak or is hugged by a member of the opposite sex, they change into their Zodiac animal!



Filler
sketch





Fruits Basket

Chapter 60

Filler
sketch

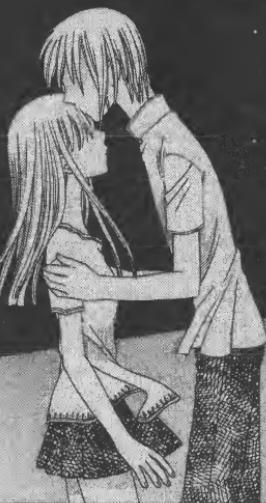




WHEN MY LIPS
TOUCHED HER
LOVINGLY...

...IT WAS A
SYMBOL OF
THE END...

...AND A NEW
BEGINNING.



ISUZU?

草摩

*Nameplate: Sohma







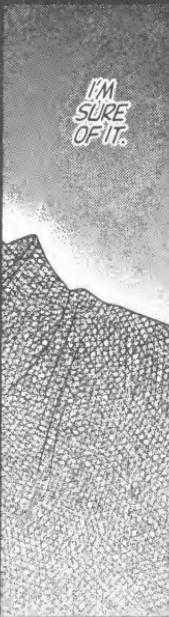


SHII-
CHAN,
YOU SON
OF A
BITCH!!

...I WON'T
LOSE.

KAGURA, YOU
KNOW THAT'S
THE SECOND TIME
YOU'VE DESTROYED
THAT DOOR IN AS
MANY MONTHS.

Next time
we meet,
I'll show
you no
mercy!



I'M
SURE
OF IT.

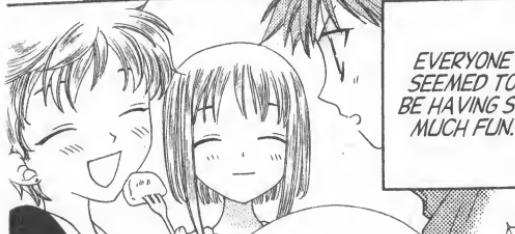
I'LL
KEEP GOING
FORWARD.

I CAN GO ON
BELIEVING.

YUKI-KUN...



DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING MORE.



EVEN YUKI-KUN WAS SMILING.



Fruits Basket 11
Part 1:

Hajimemashite and konnichiwa!
Takaya, here! I'm pleased to present Furuba volume 11!
Eleven is Hiro-kun.
Could it be that his desire to be an adult is the basis for his recent decline in his smart-aleck comments, and that he's about to grow? You never know...
He might shoot up like a weed. I hope it's not too much of a shock, but, starting with Volume 11, the "Ultra-Special Blah Blah Blah" columns are gone.
Not to worry, though. These side columns are still going strong, so you'll still hear plenty of me going on about whatever crosses my mind.
Well, please enjoy Furuba.





The mads are all with Akito.









O
H,
N
O!

I'M EVEN
MAKING KYO-
KUN WORRY
ABOUT ME!!

KY-KYO-KUN!
WOULD YOU
LIKE TO GO TO
THE BEACH?!

HUH?

?

HMM?

YES!

AND THAT
WOULD BE...
FUN?

I'M SURE
it WILL
be fun!

...If
you
say
so.

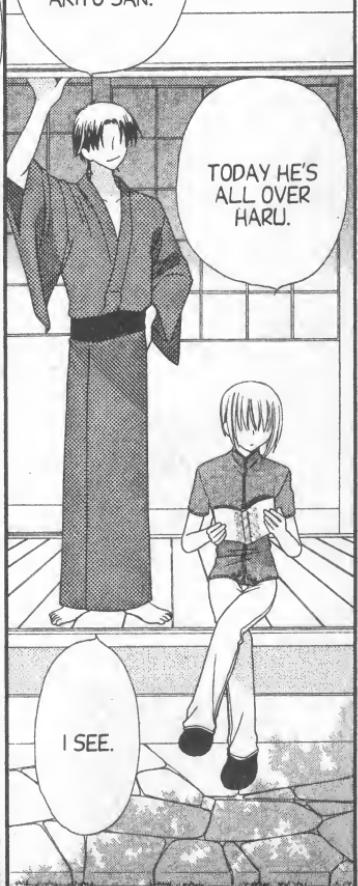
DON'T WORRY!
I DON'T MEAN
TO SWIM.

LOOK,
YOU...

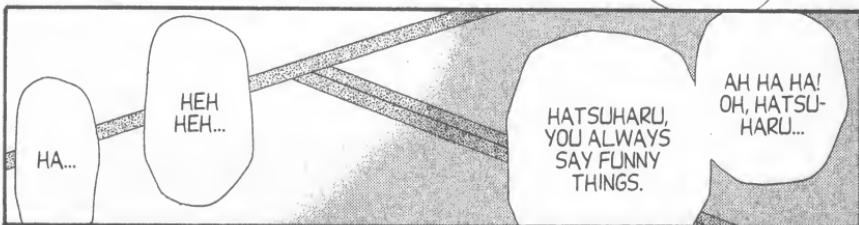
Let's
play in
the sand!!

Were you
going to say
something,
Kyo-kun?









DID I
HURT YOUR
FEELINGS?

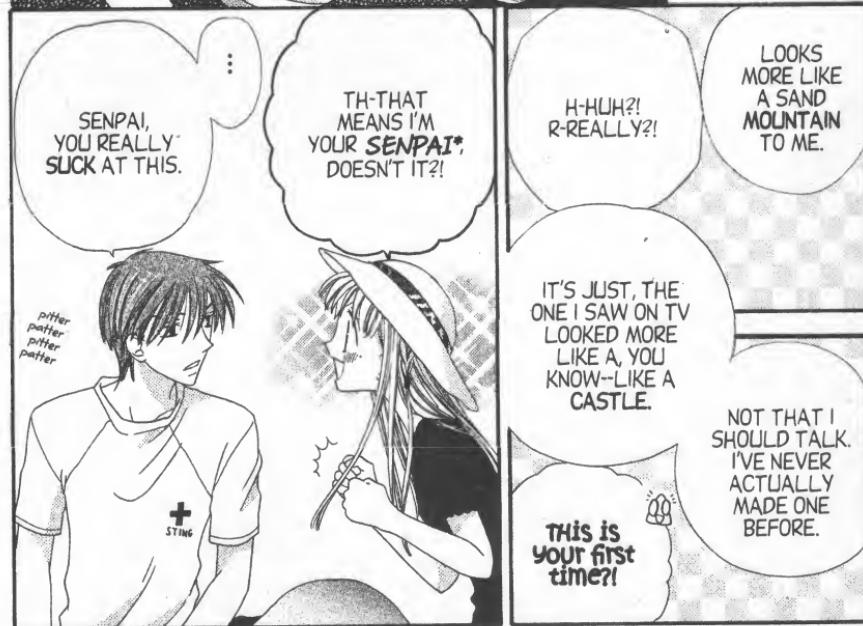
OH...?

WHY SO
GLUM?

...BUT
IT'S FUNNY,
HATSUHARU.

JUST LIKE
YOU.

THE BIG,
DUMB,
FUNNY OX.



*Senpai = a more advanced student.

I'M BACK!
I'M BACK!
I'M BACK!

Y-y-
you
startled
me...

MOMIJI!!
WHY, YOU
LITTLE--!

WE'RE
BACK,
ONEE-
CHAN...!

W--
WELCOME
BACK!

WHAT'S THIS?
AREN'T YOU
TWO A LITTLE
OLD TO BE
PLAYING KIDS'
GAMES?

I wanna
play, too!

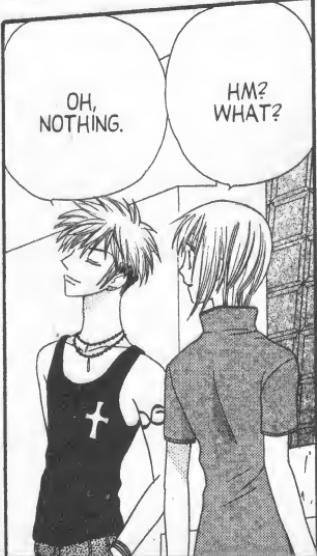
tup
tup

I'M BACK!

Glomp

TOHRU!!









...I
CAN'T
HEAR
IT.

THE VOICE
IS SO
SMALL

SO
SMALL

I CAN'T
HEAR IT.

BUT...
I COULDN'T
POSSIBLY
FORGET! I ADMIT
THAT I DIDN'T
UNDERSTAND
EVERYTHING YOU
WERE SAYING...

...BUT I'M
SURE THAT
IT WAS VERY
IMPORTANT
TO YOU...

...WASN'T
IT, YUKI-
KUN?

HIS
TRUE VOICE...

NO MATTER
HOW HARD
I LISTEN...

YOU TOLD ME
SOMETHING VERY
IMPORTANT,
DIDN'T YOU?

BUT
IT'S SO
SMALL.

THAT'S
WHY...

THERE'S
A RIGHT
TIME AND
A WRONG
TIME...

...TO TELL
THE WHOLE
TRUTH...

...
WOULDN'T
YOU SAY?

...SOME-
DAY...

OKAY?

whisper

FOR NOW,
ALL I CAN
TELL YOU...

SOME-
DAY...

I THINK
THERE'S
SOME-
THING...
I SHOULD
TELL
YOU...

...IS THAT
I'M DOING
WELL.

SO, DON'T
WORRY
ABOUT
ME.

Tahru! My
Yuki!

I THINK
HE WAS
TEASING ME!

...

YEAH.

GACK!

Yes!! I-I-I
UNDER-
STAND!!

Y-

YOU...

shake
shake
shake

SOMEHOW,
IT SEEMS
LIKE HE'S
SUDDENLY
GOTTEN
TOUGHER.

IT'S A
DUMPLING!
DID I DO A
GOOD JOB?

YES,
YOU DID.

YUKI, LET'S
GO BACK
SOON.

I'm
hungry.

YEAH,
OKAY.

IF YOU
HAPPEN TO
SEE AKITO...

...DON'T GET
STUPID AND
LOSE IT.

GRAB







...I KNOW
I'LL HEAR
HIS VOICE...
SOMEDAY.



SAY,
KURENO.

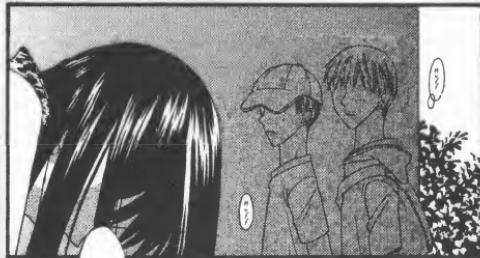
WOULD
YOU LIKE
TO...

...GO MEET
TOHRU
HONDA?



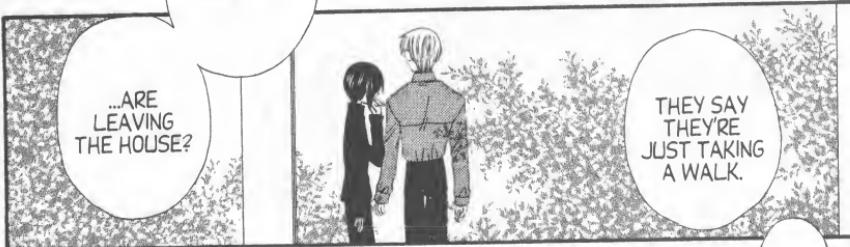


Chapter 61





AKITO AND KURENO...



...ARE LEAVING THE HOUSE?



THEY SAY THEY'RE JUST TAKING A WALK.



WHETHER THEY ARE OR NOT, IT'S OBVIOUS THAT AKITO-SAN HAS A SUPERIORITY COMPLEX...



...WHEN IT COMES TO TOHRU-KUN.



BECAUSE HE'S TAKING US AWAY FROM HER LIKE THIS.



TO WHERE HONDA-KUN IS?



OH MY... I WONDER.



...YOU
ARE TO ACT
AS A PROPER
MEMBER OF THE
JUUNISHI.

I WORRY
ABOUT YOU
BECAUSE
YOU'RE
INFERIOR.

I THINK I'LL
INTRODUCE
YOU TO HER
MYSELF.

SO,
KURENO...

...WE'LL
LEAVE THE
GORION ALL
ALONE AGAIN.

AFTER
THAT...

KYO-KUN'S
WITH HER,
ISN'T HE?

BUT
SHE'S NOT
ALONE.

AS LONG AS
SHE'S HERE,
SHE WILL
ALWAYS BE
ALONE.

SHE'S NO
MATCH
FOR ME...

SHE NEEDS
TO REALIZE
THAT SHE'LL
NEVER
BEAT ME.



IS IT FUN
BEING WITH
A MONSTER?







I'VE
ALWAYS

...
THOUGHT
THAT WAS
STRANGE.

EVER
SINCE I
WAS A
LITTLE
KID.

I DON'T KNOW
HOW MUCH OF
THAT'S TRUE,
THOUGH.

Since the color
doesn't fade...

APPARENTLY,
BECAUSE IT
WAS MADE

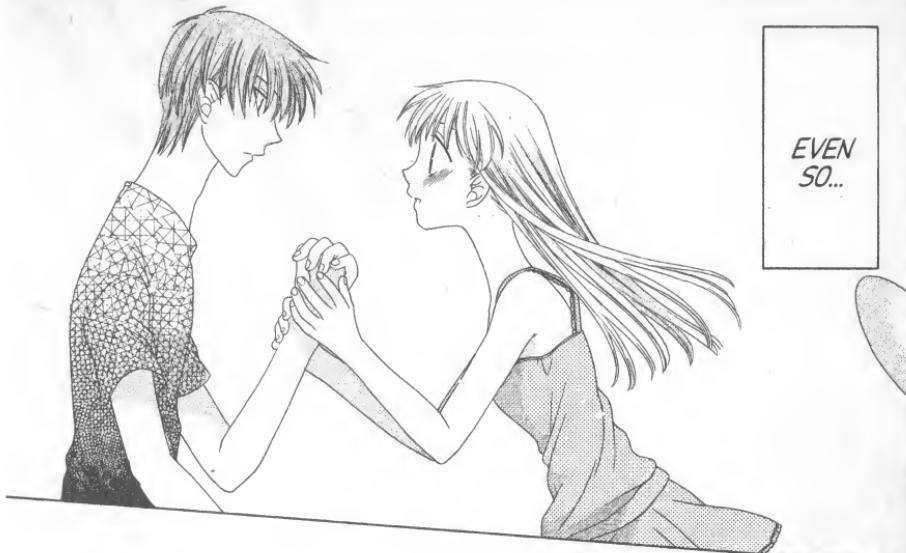
...BY SACRIFICING
THE LIVES OF
OTHERS, IT'S
SUPPOSED TO BE
A POWERFUL
PROTECTIVE
CHARM.

"STEALING
EVERYTHING,
TRAMPLING ON
EVERYTHING..."

...UNTIL
THERE'S
NOTHING
LEFT."

WHAT
DO THEY
MEAN...

..."AN
EXISTENCE
BUILT ON OTH-
ERS' SACRI-
FICES...
ON OTHERS'
LIVES?"



THAT
WAS SO
SCARY!

I-I-I thought I would
be carried away...

Watch
out for
big
waves.

TH--

Why
you...

DAMN
YOU,
OCEAN!!

YOU'RE NO
MATCH FOR
THE OCEAN!

DON'T BE
SILLY,
KYO-KUN!

I'LL
TEACH
YOU TO
MESS
WITH ME!

I'M GONNA
KILL YOU!!
YOU HEAR
ME?!

...







Okami-san



If Okami-san ever came at me with all that tension, I would either run away with all my might, or be scared stiff. At least when she speaks with Ritchan she can be quiet. She's not always thorough in fulfilling her duties as hostess--could it be calculated neglect? Is she as shameless as her son? Anyway, because she shouts a lot, I have a hard time fitting all her lines inside her balloons.





BUT...EVEN I
HAVE THINGS
THAT, NO
MATTER
WHAT...



...NO MATTER
WHAT, I DON'T
WANT TO BE
HEARD.





...AWAY
...?

...HO...



I SAW HER EARLIER AND FOLLOWED, THINKING IT MIGHT BE RIN.

THANK YOU FOR FINDING HER, HONDA-SAN.

N-NO, UM, IT WAS AN ACCIDENT...

IT IS YOU, RIN.

Eh...
H-HUH?
YUKI-KU-?!

BUT WHY ARE YOU TRANSFORMED, RIN?

AS YOU CAN SEE, SHE'S THE HORSE.

THIS IS RIN... ISUZU SOHMA.

ISUZU... SAN...?

...SOMEONE CALL HATORI-SA-?

UH, UM...

YOU MUST BE SICK.







SHE'S
INCREIBLY
STUBBORN.

Did she change
back through
stubbornness?

AND
SUCH A
GRACEFUL
FIGURE...

THEY MUST BE
REFERRING TO
PEOPLE LIKE
HER WHEN
THEY SAY
"BEWITCHING
BEAUTY."

AAHH!

I GET THE
FEELING MY
CLOTHES
WON'T FIT
HER...

I really get that
feeling...

POSSESSED
BY THE
SPIRIT OF
THE HORSE...

SUCH A
BEAUTIFUL,
FEISTY...

YOUNG
WOMAN.

UH, UM, I'LL
GO GET YOU
A CHANGE
OF CLOTHES!
OKAY?!!

Th-th-they're
dry, so...

Please
do.

WHAT A
SURPRISE!

I NEVER
IMAGINED I'D
MEET ANOTHER
MEMBER OF THE
ZODIAC HERE!

"I'VE BEEN DUMPED."

"IT WAS KIND OF A SECRET THAT WE WERE GOING OUT."

DID YOU COME HERE TO SEE SOMEONE?

WHY ARE YOU HERE, ANYWAY...?

DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD.

YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL, ARE YOU?





...I'LL
KILL
YOU!



ALL
RIGHT?!
AND WHAT-
EVER YOU
DO...

IF YOU
DO...



...DON'T TELL
ANY OF THE
OTHERS
THAT I WAS
HERE.



WE BOTH
KNOW THAT
YOU DON'T
HAVE IT IN
YOU.



KILL ME?



...BUT
YOU'RE
NOTHING BUT...



...AKITO'S
TOY!

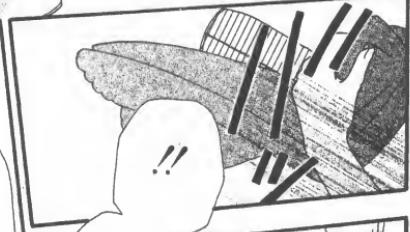


YOU
TALK
BIG...



UM...

?







I HAVE
TO MAKE A
DELICIOUS
DINNER!

NOW,
THEN!

TODAY
WAS AN
AMAZING
DAY.

I ENDED UP
MEETING THE
HORSE-SAN.

NOW, ALL
THAT'S LEFT
IS ROOSTER-
SAN...



DAMM-IT!

DAMN!

DAMN...

SO...

...THAT
MUST
MEAN...

DAMM-IT!

.....!

THAT
MUST
MEAN
THAT...

TOMOR-
ROW...

...AKITO-
SAN IS...



DON'T
FAIL ME.

...BRING
KYO
HERE...

...WITH
YOU.



SLAM

COULD
THIS
MEAN...



YOU REALLY
ARE ENJOYING
THIS, AREN'T
YOU?

...A STORM
IS BREWING?



Chapter 62

Filler
Sketch



Summer Memories



...THE
ROOSTER...

... "I WONDER
IF THE
LAST ONE...

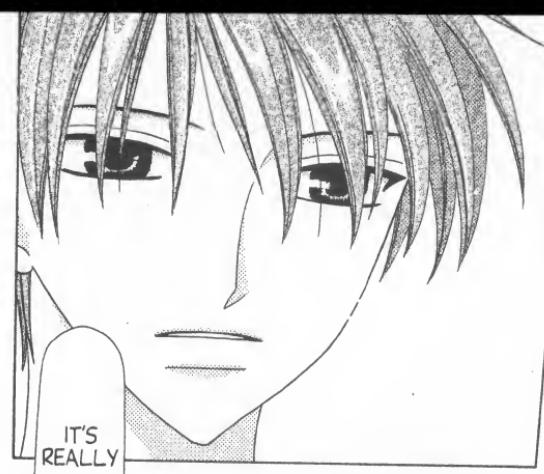
...AND
THEN...

...I
THOUGHT...

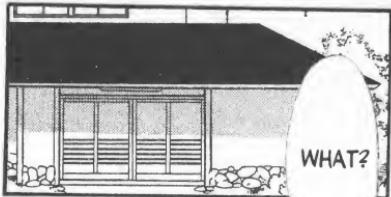
I MET ISUZU
SOHMA-SAN,
WHO IS
POSSESSED
WITH THE
SPIRIT OF
THE HORSE...



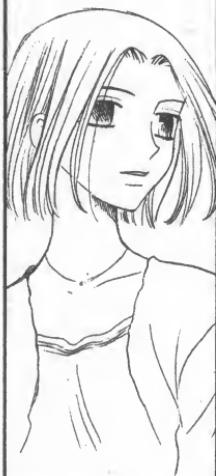








Kana



Actually, I've been asked the "When snow melts..." question. A loooong time ago. At the time, I thought I would be moved to tears if I heard them answer 'It becomes spring.' Because I, of course, would have answered, "It becomes water."



...COME HERE ON VACATION SO YOU COULD JUST LEAVE HER BY HERSELF?!

DID YOU...

SHUT
THE HELL
UP, YOU
BASTARD!!

I'LL WARN
YOU ONE
MORE
TIME...

THEN
WHY...

...ARE YOU
HERE?

DON'T BE
STUPID AND
LOSE IT IN
FRONT OF
AKITO.

YOU CAN'T GO
AGAINST AKITO
EITHER...

...SO DON'T
TALK LIKE
YOU'RE SO
SUPERIOR.





WELCOME...

IT'S BEEN
A WHILE
SINCE WE'VE
SPOKEN
FACE TO
FACE.

IT'S ALL
RIGHT.

COME IN.

THAT...

...IN THE
END...

...THAT'S
ALL WE
ARE.

MY POOR
LITTLE
MONSTER...

ring

MY...

RIIIING



||
X

SPLAAASH

I WONDER IF
WITH KYO-KUN
TOO, AKITO-SAN
HAS A SPECIAL
RELATIONSHIP...?

...IF AKITO-
SAN IS SOME-
ONE KYO-KUN
FEARS...?





I SHOULDN'T
WORRY ABOUT
THAT RIGHT
NOW.



IS AKITO-
SAN...



"BE A GOOD
GIRL AND
WAIT FOR
ME TO COME
BACK, OKAY?"



...IS OUR
BET
GOING?



PLEASE
LET KYO-
KUN...

...COME BACK
FEELING EVEN
A LITTLE BIT
HAPPY.



...REALLY
THE
ROOSTER?

FROM THE BEGINNING, THE CAT WAS MADE SUCH THAT...

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE, ISN'T IT?

THE BET YOU MADE WITH ME...

YOU CAN'T WIN, CAN YOU?

...ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT YOU COULD BEAT YUKI.

YOU JUST CAN'T BEAT HIM, CAN YOU?

YOU CAN'T ...

...IT CAN NEVER BEAT THE RAT.

I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I?

...CAN YOU?

...THAT'S JUST HOW IT IS, HAVEN'T I?

THE FATE SET BY YOUR BLOOD.

"SHUT UP!"

"YOU THINK... YOU THINK I CARE ABOUT FATE?"

"I'LL SMASH THAT FATE!"

"I WILL BEAT YUKI!"

"I WILL BEAT HIM... I WILL BEAT HIM!"

I'VE TOLD YOU...

YOU WILL NEVER IN YOUR LIFE BE ABLE TO BEAT YUKI.

THAT'S HOW YOU WERE MADE FROM THE BEGINNING.

IT'S THE COURSE OF DESTINY CARVED OUT BY THOSE POSSESSED BY VENGEFUL SPIRITS...

IT
LOOKS
TO ME...

ring

"BECAUSE IF
YOU CAN'T BEAT
HIM, THEN YOU
REALLY ARE..."

"I'LL EVEN
LET YOU JOIN
THE ZODIAC."

"WELL THEN,
SHALL WE
MAKE A BET?"

"IF YOU REALLY
CAN BEAT YUKI
BY THE TIME
YOU GRADUATE
HIGH SCHOOL...."

"BUT..."

"...IN THE
CASE THAT
YOU DON'T
BEAT HIM..."

"I'LL STOP
CALLING YOU
A MONSTER."

...LIKE I'LL
BE WINNING
THAT BET.

...NOTHING
BUT DIRT."

...I'LL PUT YOU
IN CONFINEMENT
UNTIL YOU DIE."

...THAT WHICH I DON'T KNOW?

YOU WOULD TELL ME...

HOW... HOW DARE YOU JUST DECIDE THAT?!

YOU DON'T KNOW THAT!!

THERE'S STILL TIME!!

SNATCH

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?

WHY...?

WHY WON'T YOU UNDERSTAND...?

SMACK

WHY DO YOU MISUNDERSTAND SO MUCH?

YOU NEED TO REMEMBER. REMEMBER...

THAT...

THAT'S NOT...

THAT IS WHY.

NO...! IT'S...
NOT MY FAULT!

IT IS YOUR FAULT.

THAT YOUR MOTHER DIED.

...THAT YOU ARE A MONSTER.

...KILLED YOUR MOTHER.

YOU...

AND IT IS BECAUSE YOU ARE A MONSTER...

DON'T
GIVE ME
ORDERS.

STOP IT!
DON'T
TOUCH
ME...!

STOP
IT!

EVEN THOUGH
SHE GAVE BIRTH
TO A MONSTER
IN HUMAN SKIN,
SHE BRAVELY
PROTECTED IT...
RAISED IT...

YOUR POOR
MOTHER...

BUT IN THE
END, IT WAS
TOO MUCH
FOR HER.
THE LITTLE
MONSTER
KILLED
HER.

AND NOW THAT
MONSTER, HER
SON, WON'T
EVEN MOURN
HER DEATH.

"KYO..."

"DON'T YOU
UNDERSTAND
HOW HARD IT
WAS ON HER?"

"...BECAUSE
OF YOU."

"CAN A
MONSTER
LIKE YOU
UNDER-
STAND?"

"SHE KILLED
HERSELF..."

"THAT
WASN'T AN
ACCIDENT. IT
WAS SUICIDE."

"KYO,
DON'T
YOU..."

"YOU..."

"...IF YOU HAD
NEVER BEEN
BORN."

"HOWEVER
YOU LOOK AT
IT, EVERYONE
WOULD HAVE
BEEN A LOT
HAPPIER..."

"...SHOULD
HAVE BEEN
THE ONE
TO DIE."



I KILLED
HER.

I DID.

STOP
IT!!



JUST
STOP.



...BECAUSE
OF TOHRU
HONDA?

YOU KNOW...
I'VE BEEN
THINKING.

PERHAPS THE
REASON YOU'VE
BEEN SPURRED ON
IN YOUR MISUNDER-
STANDING IS...

JUST LIKE
AN ANGEL?
OR THE HOLY
MOTHER?

HOW...
DO YOU
KNOW?

IT REALLY
IS AMAZING,
ISN'T IT?

I HEAR SHE
SAW YOUR TRUE
FORM, BUT ISN'T
UPSET BY IT.

OR
RATHER...

...A
MONSTER?

AMAZING,
ISN'T IT?

I MEAN,
IF ANY
SENSIBLE
PERSON
SAW YOU
IN THAT
FORM...

...THEY
WOULD RUN
AWAY.

HOW...

TOHRU
HONDA IS A
MONSTER.

ISN'T SHE
JUST A
LITTLE
TOO GOOD?

SO GOOD
NATURED,
IT'S REALLY
RATHER
FRIGHTENING?

HOW CAN
YOU...

HOW CAN
YOU SAY
THAT ABOUT
HER?!

SHE'S A
FREAK, JUST
LIKE YOU.

NO HUMAN
BEING IS
LIKE THAT.

YOU
DON'T...

IT'S NOT LIKE
YOU WERE BORN
A MONSTER, SO
HOW WOULD
YOU...?!

YOU DIDN'T
SEE IT, SO
HOW...?

YOU WEREN'T
THERE WHEN
IT HAPPENED!

YOU DON'T
KNOW ANY-
THING...

HER
HANDS...

YOU DON'T
KNOW HOW
SCARED SHE
WAS THEN!

SO HOW
CAN YOU
SAY THOSE
THINGS?!

HER FACE
WAS PALE...

SHE WAS
TERRIFIED.

...AND HER
VOICE...

...WERE
SHAKING...

...WITH
FEAR.

AND
SHE
STILL
...

SHE STILL
DIDN'T
RUN AWAY
BECAUSE--

OH,
SHUT UP.

SHE HELD
ON TO
MY HAND
BECAUSE--

SHE STILL
DIDN'T RUN
AWAY FROM
ME BECAUSE--

SHUT UP!
SHUT UP!

AAHHH!!

...SHE TOOK
AWAY ALL
OF MY PAIN.

THERE'S
NO WAY
SHE COULD
FILL THAT
CHASM.

BUT THAT
DOESN'T
MATTER.

I COULDN'T
EXPECT
HER TO
"FIX" ME.
WHAT'S
IMPORTANT
IS...

IT'S NOT
LIKE...

I MIGHT
NEVER
HAVE...

...TRUSTED
ANYONE
EVER
AGAIN.

...PROBABLY
NEVER HAVE
COME BACK.

SHE KNEW
THAT IF
SHE LET
GO OF MY
HAND...

...I WOULD...

...IS THAT...

...SHE'S NOT
AFRAID TO BE
BY MY SIDE.

THAT
SHELL GET
EXCITED
ABOUT TINY
THINGS...

...AND
BE HAPPY
WHEN WE'RE
TOGETHER.

...AND
SMILE...

I WISH SHE
WOULD
THINK ABOUT
ONLY HER-
SELF MORE.

OR
THINK IT'S
STUPID?

DOESN'T SHE
EVER REGRET
WASTING TIME
WITH ME?

SO, WHY?

OR REALIZE
THAT I HAVE
NOTHING TO
OFFER?

"WHEN YOU
CLOSE YOUR
EYES, WHAT DO
YOU THINK?"

"YUKI?"

"THAT
MIGHT
JUST BE
STUPID
TO SOME
PEOPLE..."

"...BUT IT'S
NOT STUPID
TO ME"

"KYO?"

"THE
TRAVELER
DIDN'T THINK
ABOUT THEM."

"IT'S
POINTLESS
TO JUST
THINK ABOUT
THOSE
THINGS."



I LOVE
YOU...

...THE WAY
YOU ARE.



I LOVE YOU
SO MUCH!

I LOVE
YOU.

Chapter 63



Filler
Sketch



Somehow, it seems like I've gotten into a rut of only drawing girls.
By the way, this is Kagura.

...WOULD
DO ANY-
THING...

...OVER
AND
OVER
AGAIN...

...IF I KNEW IT
WOULD MAKE
HER SMILE?

WHEN
DID I
START...

"THIS IS
FUN!"

WHEN
DID IT
START?

"KYO-
KUN!"

WHEN DID
I START
THINKING
THAT...

WHEN DID
I START
TELLING
MYSELF
THAT I...

...MY NAME
HAD A SPECIAL
RING TO IT
WHENEVER SHE
WOULD SAY IT?









Mayu-chan-
sensei



She might be the type who's kind of sad that she's a woman. That might be why Shigure likes her. Poor thing... At any rate, she's popular among the female students and has problems like getting love letters from them. Also, she's secretly insecure about how tall she is. But Hatori is tall, too, so they might look pretty good together as a tall couple.







YOU THINK
YOU'D BE
ALLOWED
SUCH A
THING?!

"I WON'T ALLOW IT."

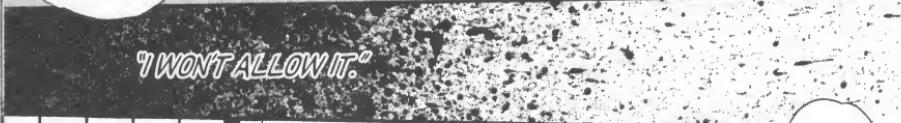


WHO IS
THE ONE
MOST AT
FAULT?

THINK
CAREFULLY.

SAY,
KYO...

... KYO.



I WON'T ALLOW IT.



...IS THE ONE
RESPONSIBLE
FOR PUTTING
YOU IN THIS
AWKWARD
POSITION?

WHO...



BUT SURELY
MUCH OF THE
FAULT LIES
WITH THAT
SCHEMING
WOMAN.



IT'S YOUR
FAULT!



NO, I
DON'T...



I DON'T...



...LOVE
HER.



...PERHAPS
A LITTLE...



...ME.



...IT'S...

I DON'T
WANT
HIM...

...TO SAY
BAD THINGS
ABOUT HER
BECAUSE
OF ME.

THAT'S

...RIGHT...

FOR ONCE,
YOU'VE JUDGED
WISELY.

I'LL NEVER
FALL IN
LOVE...

NO
MORE.

THERE'S
NO WAY I'D
LOVE HER!!

I WOULD
NEVER...

...IN MY
WHOLE
LIFE LOVE
ANYONE!

I SEE I WAS
JUMPING TO
CONCLUSIONS.

THAT'S RIGHT.
OBVIOUSLY,
YOU DON'T
LOVE HER.



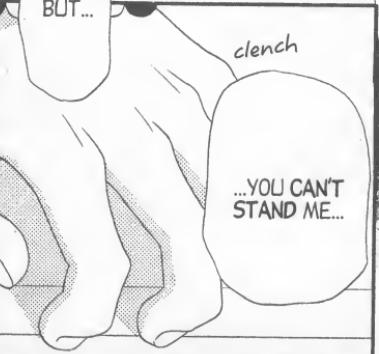
IT'S ALL
RIGHT.



I'LL
BE WITH
YOU...



...SO YOU
WON'T BE
LONELY.



BUT...

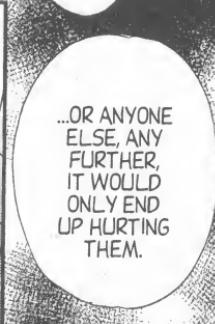
clench

...YOU CAN'T
STAND ME...



IF YOU
DRAG IN
THAT WOMAN...

...OR
KAZUMA
...



...OR ANYONE
ELSE, ANY
FURTHER,
IT WOULD
ONLY END
UP HURTING
THEM.



IT'S ONLY A
MATTER OF
TIME BEFORE
YOU'LL BE
CONFINED.



BUT
THAT'S...



THE BEST
THING
WOULD BE
FOR YOU TO
NOT EXIST.



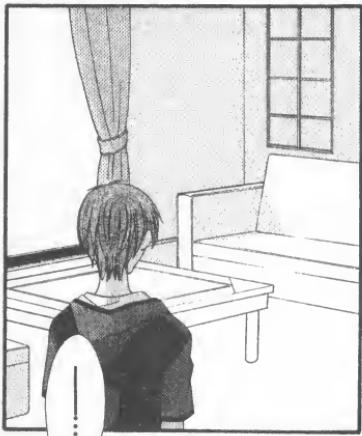
...FOR THE
BEST, YOU
KNOW?











...IF YOU
STEPPED
ON IT."

"IT WOULD
BE A SHAME..."

"WAIT,
KYO."

"KYO..."

WHY BOTHER
PROTECTING
SUCH A TINY
FLOWER?

WHAT'S
THE
POINT?

SHISHOU...

...UNTIL
THERE'S
NOTHING
LEFT."

EVEN
SO...

"STEALING
EVERYTHING,
TRAMPLING ON
EVERYTHING...

YOU KNOW
WHAT THEY
SAY ABOUT
ME!

"AN EXISTENCE
MADE UP
OF OTHERS'
SACRIFICES
AND OTHERS'
LIVES."

...YOU
HAVEN'T
GIVEN UP
HOPE, IS IT
NOT?

...THE
REASON YOU
ARE ALIVE
NOW...

...IS
THAT...

YOU KNOW
THIS, DON'T
YOU?

...IN THIS
WORLD HAS
REJECTED
YOU.

IT'S NOT
TRUE THAT
EVERYONE...

JUST AS, NO
MATTER HOW
HARD YOU TRY
TO KEEP IT
AWAY...

...DESPAIR
WILL ATTACK
YOU AGAIN
AND AGAIN.

IN THE
SAME
MANNER...

...HOPE
WILL
RETURN
TO YOU.

EVEN
IF...

...YOU DON'T
HAVE ANY
NOW...

...SURELY
IT WILL
COME TO
YOU AGAIN.

I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
YOU'RE
TALKING
ABOUT.

I DON'T...
HAVE ANY
HOPE.

I DON'T
...

YOU
DO.

NO I
DON'T
!!

I DON'T...

I'M SORRY,
SHISHOU.
NOW...

I'M
SORRY...

...I
UNDER-
STAND.

BACK THEN,
I PRETENDED
NOT TO UNDER-
STAND YOU...

"...IT WILL
SURELY
BLOOM."

I KNEW.

...BUT DEEP
DOWN
INSIDE,
I KNEW.
REALLY.

AND
AGAIN...

JUST LIKE
THERE IS
DESPAIR
IN THE
WORLD...

THERE ARE
PEOPLE...

AND
AGAIN...

...WHO WILL
HOLD OUT
THEIR HAND
TO YOU.



"YOU'RE
LONELY,
AREN'T
YOU?"

SHE
WON'T...

...SAD."

I COULDN'T
FULFILL
IT, BUT...

"I
THINK...

...I MADE
HER...

"A MAN'S
PROMISE."

"COME
ON..."

"...SPUNKY."

...EVER
COME
BACK.

...SMALL
FLOWER.

A
SMALL...

...IT
BLOSSOMED
IN FRONT
OF ME.

...EVEN
SO...

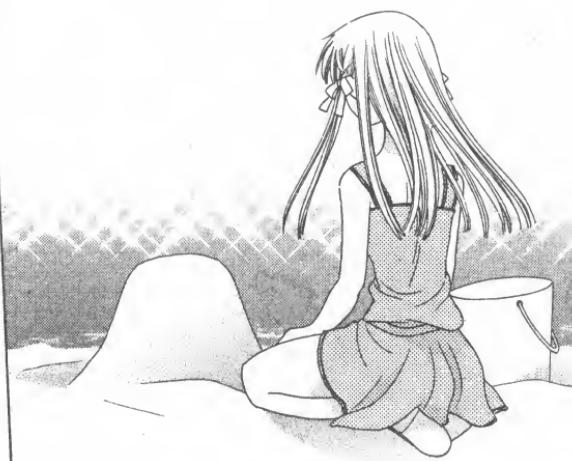
IT KEPT
BLOSSOMING.

"I'M
SURE..."

"MY
TREASURE."

...SHE'S
LONELY,
TOO."

...FLOWER.



A TINY...

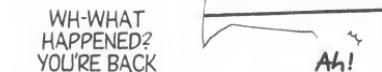


...PRECIOUS...

MY...



...PRECIOUS--









"I WON'T ALLOW IT."

...AT LEAST,
DURING THE
TIME I HAVE
LEFT...

BUT
PLEASE...
AT LEAST...

...I DON'T
WISH
THAT
ANYMORE.

BUT...

"IF YOU
DRAGGED THEM
IN ANY FURTHER,
IT WOULD ONLY
END UP HURTING
THEM."

AH!

I WANT--

I COULDN'T
POSSIBLY...

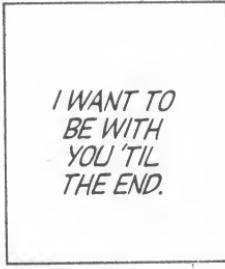
...WISH MY
FATE ON
YOU.

I WON'T
WISH IT.





I WANT
TO BE
NEAR YOU...



I WANT TO
BE WITH
YOU 'TIL
THE END.



...UNTIL THE
TIME WHEN
I MUST GO
AWAY.





Chapter 64

BOTTLE
ROCKETS,
ROMAN
CANDLES...

THERE
ARE SO
MANY!

YOU BOUGHT
ALL THESE,
YUKI?

NO.
MOMIJI
BROUGHT
THEM.

What
kind
is your
favorite?





MOMIJI SAID
WE SHOULD AT LEAST...

...END OUR
VACATION WITH A
PLEASANT
MEMORY.

AFTER
ALL...

...THE WAY
THINGS
ENDED UP...

...WE MIGHT
HAVE MADE
YOU VERY
LONELY.

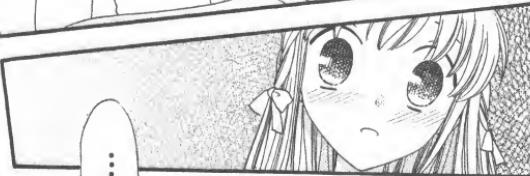
I-I
WASN'T!

I WAS
HAPPY.

BEING ABLE TO
SPEND SUMMER
WITH EVERYONE
LIKE THIS...

...SO VERY
HAPPY.

I REALLY
WAS...



PRECIOUS
TIME.

...FIRE-
WORKS!

SO...

I'M REALLY
LOOKING
FORWARD
TO IT!

YEAH.

Shishou

I always end up drawing him so young...

...but he's actually almost forty.

There was a woman he was going out with, but they disagreed on so much that they had to break up. His head is so full with thoughts of his "son" that it seems he's content. Even though they're not close blood relatives, he became Kyo's father because he felt he should, or something. His over-fondness for his child may not surpass Kyoko's, but it's at least on par with hers. Oh, and he's clumsy with his hands and has no sense of flavor.

WE DON'T HAVE ANY FIREWORKS THAT BIG, JUST SO YOU KNOW.

...THAT RENDS THE DARKNESS.

WE'LL LAUNCH THEM WITH A BANG...

Ah!

IT'S TIME FOR THE MOGETA ANIME SPECIAL!

KISA, LET'S WATCH!

jolt

YEAH!

OH... YEAH...

HE SAID HE WOULD WATCH, TOO...

H...UH?
WHAT ABOUT MOMIJI ONIICHAN...?

I wanted it to be just the two of us.





IT WOULD
JUST PUT
HER IN MORE
DANGER.

BUT
YEAH... IF
YOU CHOSE
HER OVER
AKITO...

...AKITO...

YOU WERE
ALL...

...WOULD
GET MAD.

...AND
GO TO SEE
AKITO.

I WON-
DERED
...

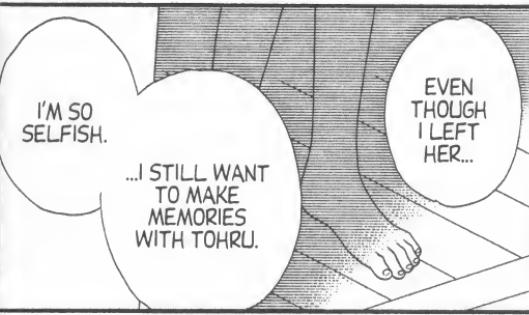
...WHY ALL OF
YOU WOULD
LEAVE TOHRU
HANGING...

...EVEN
YUKI...

...FROM
AKITO.

YOU WERE
ALL...

...PROTECTING
TOHRU...



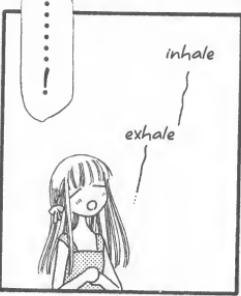
...WARM
PEOPLE.

WELL,
SQUIRT...

I'M
SELFISH,
TOO.

SUCH
KIND...

SUCH...



JUST LIKE
EVERY-
ONE HAS
GIVEN ME SO
MUCH...

...I
WISH...

...THERE WAS
SOMETHING...

...I COULD
DO FOR
THEM.

I WANT
TO...

...DO
SOMETHING
MORE.

THAT'S
RIGHT!
MOGETA!

MOMIJI-
KUN, YOUR
SHOW'S
ABOUT TO
START.

Mogeta...?

OH...THAT
WEIRD
ANIME?

I...

I WANT...





LET ME GUESS,
YOU LIKE HIM SO
MUCH THAT YOU
CAN'T LET HIM OUT
OF YOUR SIGHT, LEST
OTHERS CATCH A
GLIMPSE OF HIM.
AM I RIGHT?

I WISH
I COULD
HELP
THEM.

NO
REASON.



HE DOESN'T
SEEM QUITE
WELL
RECENTLY.

I JUST
THOUGHT
A LITTLE
VACATION
WOULD BE
GOOD FOR
HIM.

SO
WHY...



...DID
YOU MAKE
KURENO-KUN
COME WITH
YOU THIS
TIME?



MAYBE HE'S
BEEN UNDER
TOO MUCH
STRESS?

...STRESS?



I'M
EXTREMELY
CURIOS.



AREN'T
I BEING
NICE TO
YOU?

BE
NICER!!

HER...

YOU DO!

NICER,
NICER,
NICER!

YOU USED
TO BE
MUCH
NICER.

YOU
LOOKED
ONLY AT
ME.

AS IT
SHOULD
BE!

THAT
WOMAN... YOU
REALLY-

AT ME...

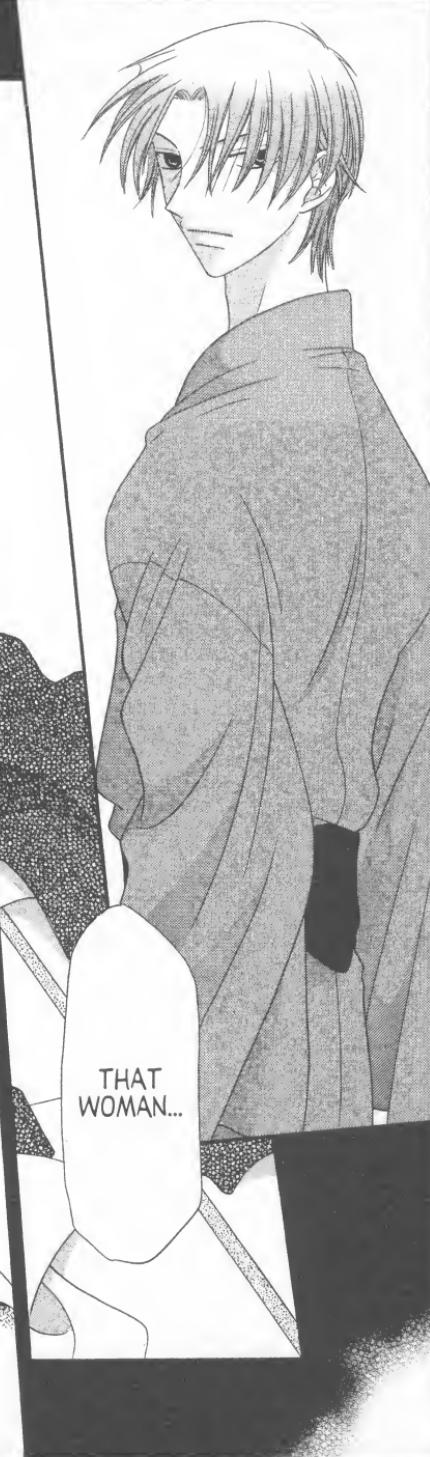
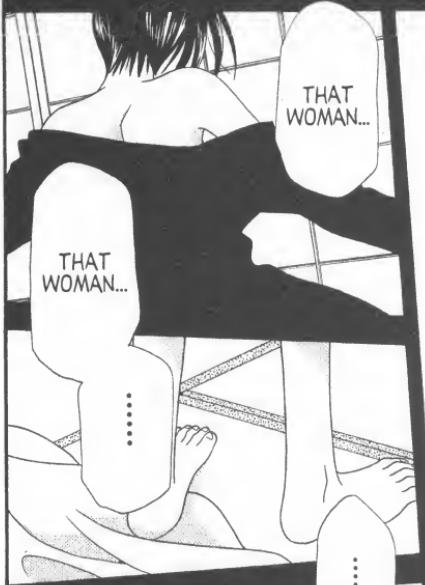


AGAIN...
ACTING
WITHOUT
PERMISSION!

DID SHE
THROW
ANOTHER
TANTRUM?









*Label: Firework Set. Safety Warning



*Label: Firework Set.





AKITO...

IT'S... SO
LATE...

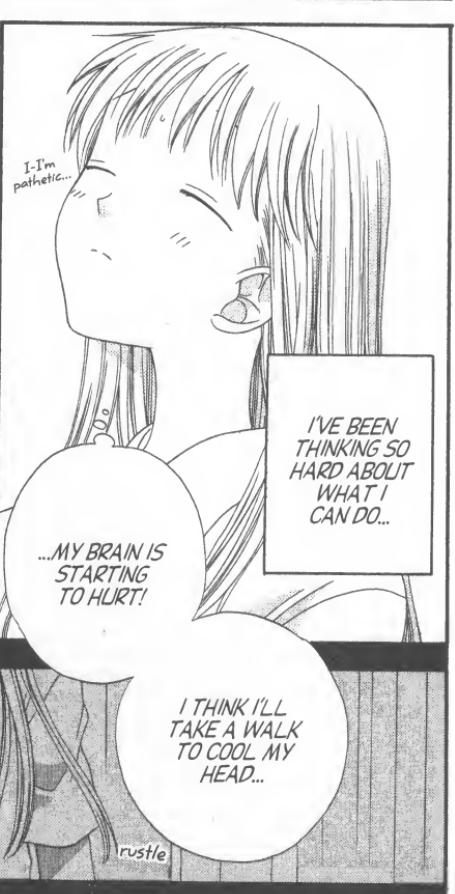
WHAT'S
...

...THE
MATTER?

I'VE COME
TO SEE...

...

...TOHRU
HONDA-SAN.



YOU
CAN'T!

AKITO,
WHAT'S
WRONG?

DID SOME-
THING...
HAPPEN?

WHY ARE
YOU SO
MAD?

WHEN
YOU'RE MAD,
YOU TAKE
IT OUT ON
OTHERS.

YOU...CAN'T
TAKE IT OUT
ON HER.

AKITO,
YOU'RE...MAD
RIGHT NOW,
AREN'T YOU?

BUT TOHRU'S
ASLEEP,
I'M SURE.

WAKE
HER UP.

NOW...?

YOU JUST
WANT TO
ANALYZE ME
WITH YOUR
HOLIER-THAN-
THOU LOGIC!!

ARE YOU
HAPPY
NOW?!

YOU JUST
WANT
TO LOOK
DOWN ON
ME!

UNDER-
STAND?

DO YOU...
WANT TO
UNDERSTAND
ME?

DO YOU
WANT TO
KNOW WHAT
I HAVE TO
DEAL WITH?

WHAT
WOULD
YOU DO IF
I TOLD
YOU?

"SOME-
THING" ...?
"WHY" ...?

**BECAUSE
I FEEL
SICK!!**

... "WHY?"

**PLEASE,
STOP!!!**

PLE--

TO--

PLEASE
STOP!

A HORRIBLE PERSON, AREN'T YOU?

THAT'S TERRIBLE.

TERRIBLE.

YOU'RE ...

THAT SOUNDS LIKE AN ORDER.

"STOP" ...?

NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF RUDE BEHAVIOR YOU SHOW ME...

...CAME HERE TO SEE YOU.

BUT TOHRU...

TOHRU HONDA, I...

...I WANT TO TELL YOU.

...THERE'S SOMETHING...

AKITO!!!

...YOU
LITTLE
BITCH.

DON'T GET
CONCEITED...

...WILL BE
CONFINED JUST
AS SOON AS HE
LEAVES HIGH
SCHOOL.

LET ME
TELL YOU...

I'LL TELL
YOU THE
TRUTH.

KYO...

IF YOU
THINK
YOU CAN
"SAVE"
YUKI OR
KYO...

...YOU SHOULD
BE ASHAMED
OF YOUR
ARROGANCE.



JUST
LIKE THE
PREVIOUS
CAT
BEFORE
HIM.

FOR HIS
WHOLE
LIFE.

UNTIL HE
DIES.

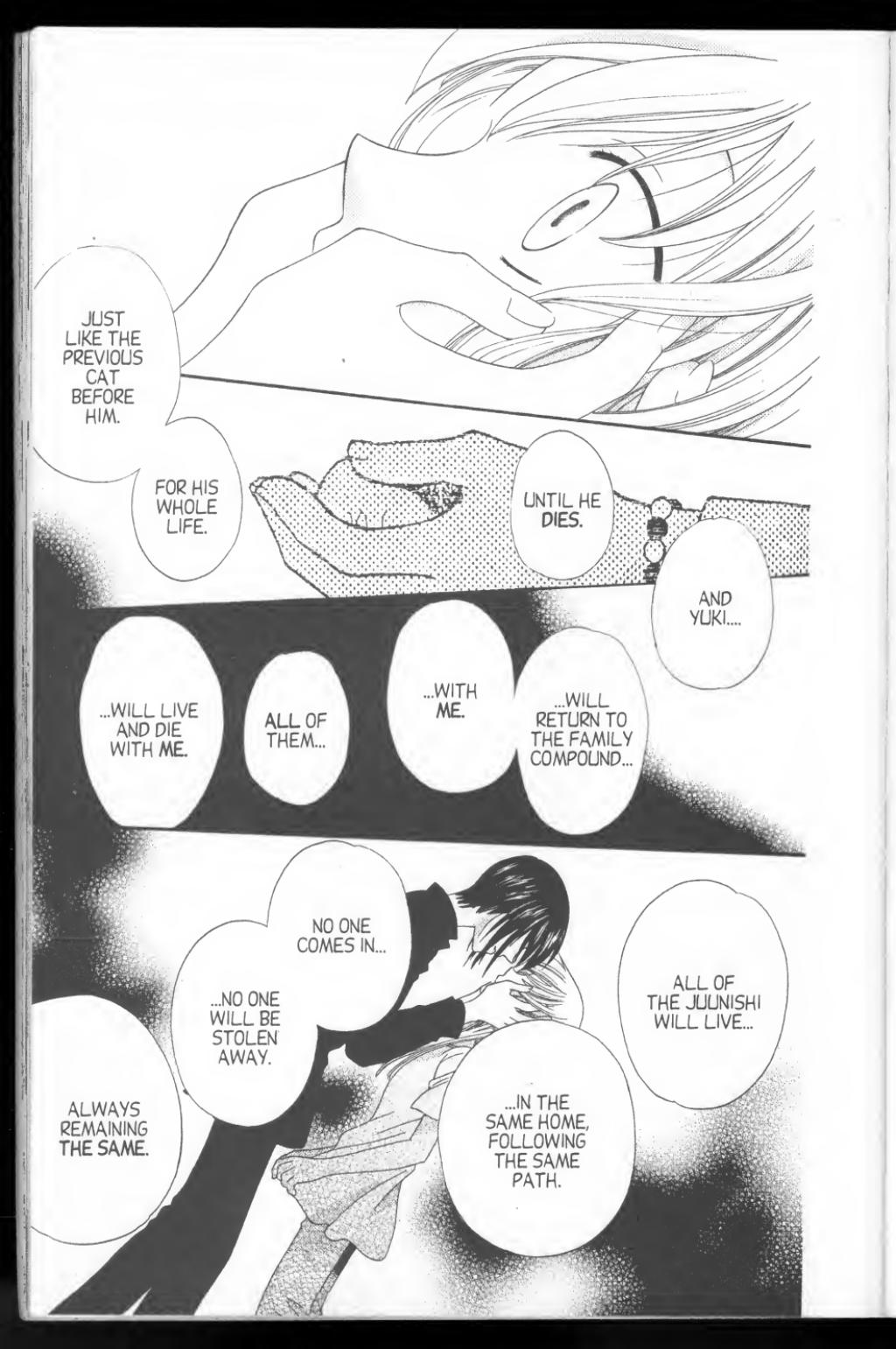
AND
YUKI...

...WILL LIVE
AND DIE
WITH ME.

ALL OF
THEM...

...WITH
ME.

...WILL
RETURN TO
THE FAMILY
COMPOUND...



ALWAYS
REMAINING
THE SAME.

NO ONE
COMES IN...
...NO ONE
WILL BE
STOLEN
AWAY.

...IN THE
SAME HOME,
FOLLOWING
THE SAME
PATH.

ALL OF
THE JUUNISHI
WILL LIVE...

...LET YOU
JOIN US!

UNCHANGING.

AN ENDLESS
BANQUET.

A HAPPY
FUTURE.

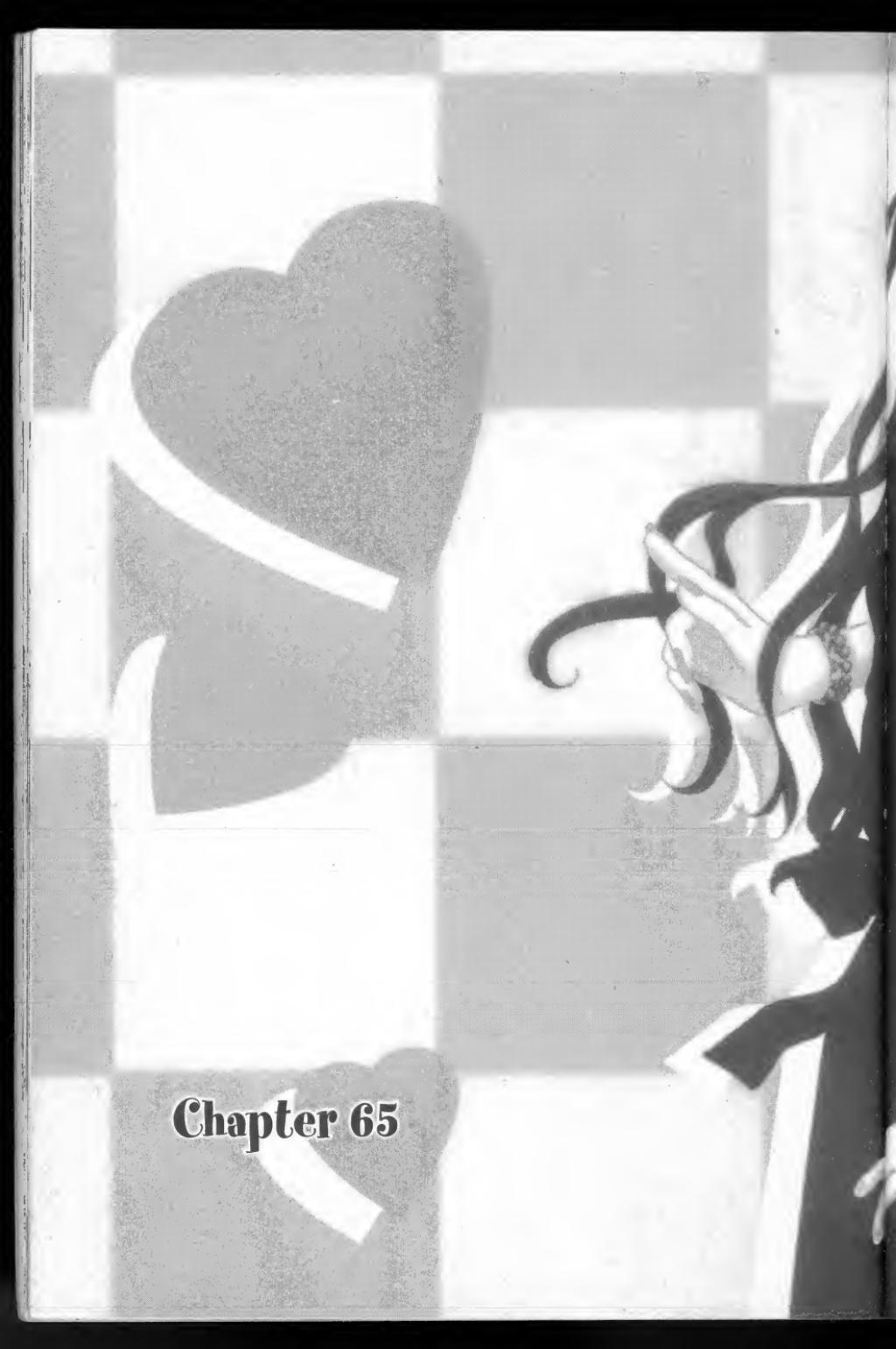
AND I
WON'T...

Filler
Sketch



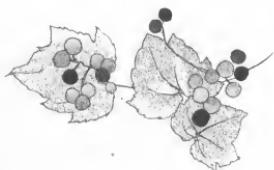
This is the rough sketch for the title page for chapter 65.



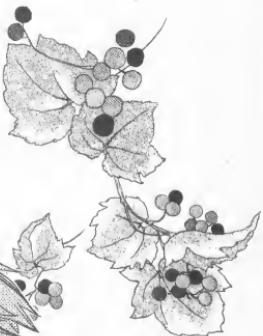


Chapter 65

I feel so grateful!



Sheesh...
That's all she
ever says...



Harada-sama, Araki-sama,
Mom, Dad, and everyone
who reads and supports this
manga... Thank you so much!



Next is "I... I'm sorry..." Ritchan!

-Natsuki Takaya

*Nameplate: Sohma



"UN-
CHANGING."

"AN
ENDLESS
BANQUET."



WOULD
THAT...





...HAPPY?

...REALLY
BE...

WOULD
THAT...

BEING
"UNCHANGING"...

...TO THE
SOHMA
HOME...

FORCING
PEOPLE
BACK...

LOCKING
PEOPLE
UP...

IS THAT
REALLY
WHAT
YOU
WANT?

...AS IF
IT'S A BAD
THING?

BUT
THAT...

...WOULD
STOP
EVERYONE...

OUR WAY
OF LIFE IS
DIFFERENT
FROM YOURS,
OUTSIDER.

WHO DO YOU
THINK YOU ARE
TO JUDGE OUR
WAYS WITH
YOUR STORYBOOK
VALUES?

...AS
THEY'RE
TRYING
TO MOVE
FORWARD.

WHO...

EVERY-
ONE'S
FEELINGS
...

...ARE
YOU...?

WOULD
YOU STOP
TALKING...

"ONCE UPON
A TIME..."



...GOD TOLD
ALL THE
ANIMALS..."





...I AM THE
CLOSEST
THING...

TO
THEM...

“GOD...”

...THERE IS
TO GOD.

THAT IS
WHO I AM.

THE ONE
WHO CONTROLS
THE ZODIAC.

THE
MASTER
OF THEIR
SOULS.







...WE CANNOT BE APART.

BECAUSE...

IN THE END...

...THEY'LL ALL COME BACK TO ME.



BE A GOOD GIRL.

STAY OUT OF IT.

SO STOP...

...TRYING TO DESTROY OUR "HAPPINESS."



...YOU'LL BE PUNISHED.

OTHERWISE...

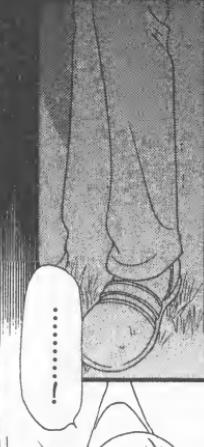




THEN
THE
CURSE
IS...?



THE ONE
WHO
STANDS
ABOVE
THEM ALL



slump



"THE
MASTER
OF THEIR
SOULS."

"WE..."

...CANNOT
BE APART."

THE
CURSE--

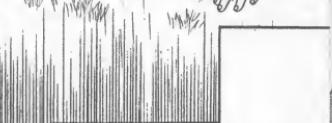
THE
MYSTERIOUS
CHAINS...

...THAT BIND
ALL THE
MEMBERS OF
THE ZODIAC...



IS THAT
WHY NO
ONE...

...CAN GO
AGAINST
HIM...?



AKITO-
SAN...

...IS
GOD.

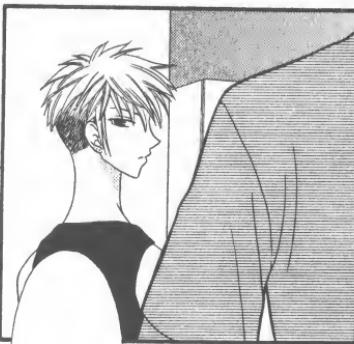




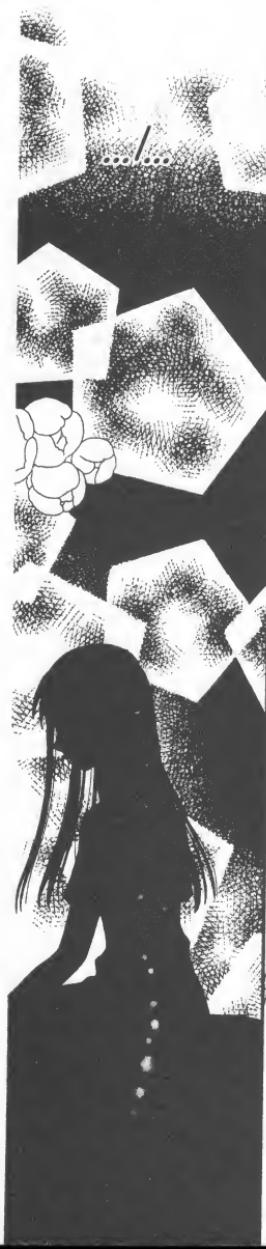












IT
CLEARED
UP!!

IT CLEARED
UP, IT CLEARED
UP! THE RAIN
STOPPED!

WE CAN DO
FIREWORKS
NOW!!

ARE YOU
SURE? THE
SUN'S STILL
UP...

I'm
sure!

I CAN'T
WAIT UNTIL
NIGHT!

RIGHT?

Yes
...



IS THAT...

...SUPPOSED
TO BE
FUN?

sizzle
sizzle
sizzle
sizzle

OOOOH...

sizzle

YEAH...
I MEAN,
WHEN
I WAS
LITTLE.

KYO-KUN, HAVE
YOU SEEN A
SNAKE FIRE-
WORK BEFORE?

WHEN I SAID
I HADN'T DONE
FIREWORKS
BEFORE, SHISHOU
WENT OUT AND
BOUGHT A TON
OF THEM.

BUT!- YOU
HAVE TO TRY IT
AT LEAST ONCE!
IT'S REALLY
WORTH SEEING!

I CAN'T SEE
ANYTHING
IN ALL THIS
SMOKE.



Oh.

IT SAYS NOT TO HOLD IT IN YOUR HANDS OR POINT IT AT PEOPLE OR BUILDINGS.

WHAT KIND ARE THOSE?

Do they fly?

I WANT TO DO THESE.

Bottle rockets.

? RUSTLE RUSTLE

DUNNO.
READ THE
INSTRUCTIONS,
YUKI.

HE'S
POINTING
IT AT
ME!!

"PUT IT IN A
BOTTLE, POINTED
AWAY FROM
YOU, AND LIGHT
THE END OF
THE FUSE."

DON'T
BELIEVE
IN ME.

SNAP

I BELIEVE
IN YOU.

IT'S ALL
RIGHT. I'M
SURE YOU
CAN DODGE
IT, KYO.

HEY,
EVERYBODY!

UH,
UM...

DON'T
POINT
THEM AT
PEOPLE!!

LOOK
YOU!!

THINK OF IT
LIKE DODGE-
BALL WITH
ROCKETS.

"Don't try this at home!"





I WANT
TO...

...BREAK
THE
CURSE.

BUT THE
CURSE...

...BINDS THEM,
AND KEEPS
THEM FROM
ACHIEVING
THEIR WISH.



... IN THE
BOTTOM
OF THEIR
HEARTS...

I HAVE A
FEELING THAT...



...THEY
ALL HAVE
A WISH TO
BE FREE.



...I WANT TO
BREAK THE
CURSE.



...IF THERE
IS A WAY...

...TO FREE
EVERYONE
FROM
THEIR
CHAINS...

...SO THAT
THEY CAN
CRY, AND
LAUGH,
WITH ALL
OF THEIR
HEARTS...

I KNOW IT'S
PROBABLY NOT
MY PLACE...

...AND SAYING
YOU WANT TO
PROTECT DOESN'T
MEAN YOU CAN...

"STAY OUT
OF IT."

BUT...

...EVEN IF
IT MEANS
I'LL BE
PUNISHED...

...EVEN
SO...









I WANT TO
PROTECT
THEM.

I WANT TO
PROTECT THE
PATH THAT
EVERYONE IS
WALKING...

...WITH
ALL THE
POWER...

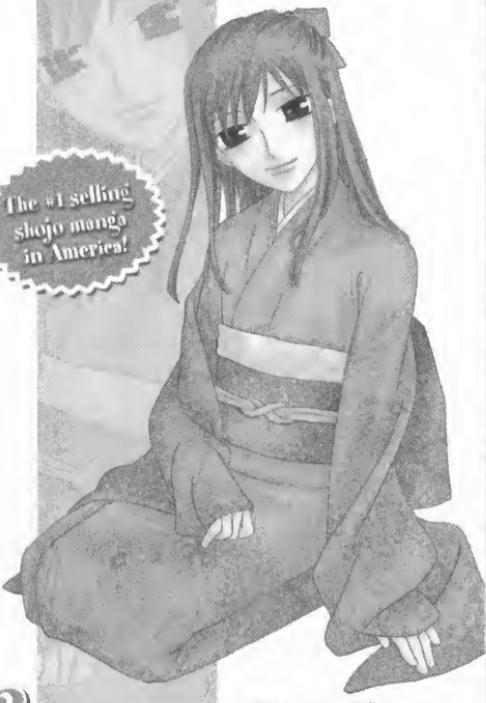
...I CAN
MUSTER.

To Be Continued in Volume 12...

Next time in...

Fruits Basket

The #1 selling
shojo manga
in America!



12

Natsuki Takaya

Council Clash and Past Rehash...

Summer vacation comes to a close, and school begins again. Student life, however, is full of strife. A new student council has been assembled, featuring two controversial secretaries: Naohito, who has declared himself Yuki's rival, and Kimi, a devil woman who steals men's hearts. While classmates clash, Tohru becomes convinced that she may have finally discovered a way to break the Sohma's curse. However, Tohru has her own family crisis to deal with--her grandfather has thrown out his back, and while Tohru visits him, he is bent on discussing a painful part of her past.

Fruits Basket Volume 12
Available December 2005